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Les Premiers Jours de la Turquie Libre. Lettres d'un Témoin. Par Camille Fidel. Publication du Comité de l'Asie Française. 77 pp. 8vo. Soc. générale d'Imprimerie et d'Édition levé, Paris, 1909.

The author travelled through Turkey and other Balkan countries, soon after the recent revolution in Turkey. He records his impressions of those countries and gives the views of leading men with regard to the new régime at Constantinople.

The Elements of Pilotage and Navigation. With Notes on the correction of Compasses. By Lieut. Maxwell H. Anderson, Royal Navy. 82 pp., diagram and maps. 8vo. J. Griffin & Co., Portsmouth (England), 1908.

Combines the elements of pilotage and navigation in small compass.

Land Teaching. A Handbook of Soils, Plants, Gardens and Grounds for Teachers and Cultivators. By H. E. Stockbridge, Ph.D. vii and 131 pp. and illustrations. Southern Ruralist Company, Atlanta, 1910. \$1.

Written in the effort to bring country school children close to the land. A source of much information that may help teachers to teach successfully.

Aus dem unbewohnten Innern Islands. Ódádahraun und Askja. Von Heinrich Erkes. Mit einer Skizze des Gebirgsstockes Dyngjufjöli und der Askja. 64 pp., map and bibliography. 8vo. Fr. Wilh. Ruhfus, Dortmund, 1909. M. 1.50.

The description of the lava wastes of Ódádahraun and Askja, in the north-eastern interior of Iceland, is reprinted from the *Mitteilungen* of the Dresden Geographical Society (Heft 9, 1909), with the correction of some errors and a few additions to the text. In Part 2, the author has translated into German various writings on the exploration of Askja.

Fernando Cortes and the Conquest of Mexico, 1485-1547. By Francis Augustus MacNutt, Translator and Editor of the "Letters of Cortes." xii and 475 pp., 6 maps, 14 illustrations, and index. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London, 1909. \$1.35.

An addition—a real addition—to the valuable "Heroes of the Nations" series, this volume contains an account of the events in Mexico during the first part of the sixteenth century, together with estimates of the so-called Mexican "civilization" and a review of the career of Cortes from his birth, at Medellin in Estramadura, to his death, at Castelleja de la Cuesta, near Sevilla. The author's reasonable view of the writings of his predecessors in this field may be suggested by a citation from pages 53 and 54:

"Between the dazzling word-pictures of Prescott and Helps, on the one hand, and, on the other, Alaman's depressing sketch of a squalid town of hovels, inhabited by bloodthirsty cannibals, there is still room for a beautiful city, in which dwelt a sovereign amidst surroundings of interesting splendor.

"An entire school of present day investigators rejects the descriptions of Mexico given by the early writers as entirely fanciful, and asserts that the city presented few points of superiority to an ordinary Indian pueblo of New Mexico or Arizona. Repudiation of what has come down to us from numerous observers, who contradict one another about almost everything else, but were in